

What is claimed is:

1 Process for the MPEG type video coding of high definition images, an image
 5 being split into panels, an encoder being assigned to each panel, one or more
 panels constituting, over the length of the image, a horizontal band of the
 image, wherein a global regulation, at the level of a band, is implemented as a
 function of a preset bit rate for the band and on the basis of a single Video
 Buffering Verifier (VBV) taking into account the state of the buffer memories of
 10 the encoders of the band.

2 Process according to Claim 1, wherein the preset bit rate allocated to a
 horizontal band is dependent on the cost of coding the band relative to the cost
 of coding a complete image.

3 Process according to Claim 2, wherein the coding cost is calculated on the
 basis of a preanalysis of the image.

4 Process according to Claim 2, wherein the coding cost is calculated on the
 20 basis of the cost of coding or complexity of a previous image.

5 Process according to Claim 2, wherein the preset bit rate for a horizontal band
 is in part the preset bit rate for the complete image, divided by the number of
 horizontal bands, in part a dynamic allocation of the preset bit rate for the
 25 complete image, dependent on the complexity of the band.

6 Process according to Claim 2, wherein the preset bit rate of a horizontal band
 is equal to:

$$Di = \left(p \frac{Xi}{X} + (1-p) \frac{n}{N} \right) D$$

30 where : Di is the bit rate of the horizontal band,
 D is the bit rate for the global image,
 Xi is the complexity of the horizontal band,
 X is the total complexity of the image,
 n is the number of panels per horizontal band,
 35 N is the total number of panels in the image,

p is the percentage of bit rate assigned to dynamic allocation relative to the global bit rate.

7 Device for the video coding of high resolution images, an image being divided
5 into several horizontal bands and the bands into panels, the device comprising
a set of encoders of MPEG type, each encoder being dedicated to the coding of
a panel, wherein each encoder of one and the same band calculates a
quantization step per row of macroblocks as a function of the same information,
10 corresponding to the sum of the coding costs and of the output bit rates of the
set of encoders of this band and corresponding to a unique Video Buffering
Verifier (VBV) for the band, so as to obtain one and the same quantization step,
and in that the encoders perform a coding by dynamic allocation, the bit rate
allotted to the set of encoders of a band being calculated on the basis of the
15 complexity of coding the band relative to the complexity of coding the complete
image.

8 Device according to Claim 7, wherein the information is exchanged over the
multiplexing bus linking the encoders and used for the transmission of the
20 transport streams of the encoders.